

## ASCP Examination Approved for Licensure Purposes in California.

The American Society for Clinical Pathology (ASCP) Board of Registry examination for medical technologists (clinical laboratory scientists, CLS) has been approved for licensure purposes in California. That means that applicants will have the option of taking the state-administered examination for CLS or taking the ASCP examination. Applicants must still apply to Laboratory Field Services, pay an application fee, document their education and training, as before to become licensed in California. But now applicants can choose to take either the ASCP examination or the state-administered examination as long as it is available. Approval of the ASCP examination has a 4-year look back which means any person passing it on or after October 1, 2002 can use that to fulfill the examination portion of licensure requirements when they apply for California licensure.

## AAB BOR CLS and MLT Exams Approved for Licensure Purposes in California (New)

Laboratory Field Services has announced that the American Association of Bioanalysts Board of Registry (AAB BOR) examinations for MT (Clinical Lab Scientist, CLS) and MLT (Medical Lab Technician) have been approved for licensure purposes in California. The effective date of this approval is January 1, 2007 for both examinations.

This approval gives applicants the option of taking AAB, ASCP or state-administered examinations for CLS licensure in California in 2007. The only option for MLT applicants to this date, however, is the AAB examination for MLT. Lab Field Services does not plan to conduct an examination for MLT licensure in California, but will rely on approved certification examinations. So far, the only MLT examination which has been approved for licensure purposes is the AAB examination. Other applications are under review at this time.

Since the scope of practice of MLTs in California restricts their doing any high complexity testing, or those requiring microscopy or immunohematology, AAB plans to offer two examination options. A California-only examination will eliminate questions on these tests, while the full registry examination will cover immunohematology. Lab Field Services will accept successful passage of either exam for MLT licensure in California.

The ASCP and AAB examinations have 4 year look backs on approval. That means that persons passing these examinations in the previous 4 years can use that to meet the examination requirement for licensure. Applicants, however, must still apply, pay an application fee and provide documentation that they meet education and training requirements in state law. Applicants will be given the option of taking a state-administered exam or an approved certifying exam until 2008, when Lab Field Services will stop administering examinations. The effective dates for certifying exams approved as of January 2007 are shown below.

License category	Certifying board	Look back date
Clinical Lab Scientist	ASCP	October 1, 2002
	AAB	January 1, 2003
Medical Lab Tech	AAB	January 1, 2003

Contact information for these exams is:

AAB Board of Registry  
906 Olive Street, Suite 1200  
St. Louis, MO 63101-1434  
(314) 241-1445  
[aab@aab.org](mailto:aab@aab.org)

ASCP Board of Registry  
33 W. Monroe Street, Suite 1600  
Chicago, IL 60603  
(312)-541-4999  
[bor@ascp.org](mailto:bor@ascp.org)

Laboratory Field Services shall implement this new route for licensure over the next few months. The actual implementation date will be posted on this website. Check this website for actual implementation date.

#### Online Quiz on State Laboratory Law.

Applicants who choose to take a certification exam for licensure purposes in California must take and pass a quiz on state laboratory law. A short tutorial on basic state laboratory law may be accessed through this link. [Click here.](#)

You will be given a unique identifier number when you apply for licensure. When you are ready to take the quiz, click on the link to the quiz and enter your name and unique identifier. You will have 10 multiple choice questions and must get at least 7 correct to pass the quiz. You may keep taking the quiz until you pass. Your score is electronically transmitted to Laboratory Field Services and will be retained in your application file.

[Click here.](#)